

Too Many Toll Gates Between Producer and Consumer

(Written Specially for The Builetin.)

Recretary Wilson's annual report, this winter, is of rather unusual interest to farmers. I spose some of you have read parts of it or extracts from Florida and California, and the long Recretary Wilson's annual report, this winter, is of rather unusual interest to farmers. I s'pose some of you have read parts of it or extracts from it or summaries of it. I've read it all, and I have found quite a little "food for thought" to chew on.

chestnut horse and a horse-chestnut. he names bear a certain resmeblance, at the critters are essentially differout the critters are essentially directions. The same commission composition of Prof. This and Dr. That and roads take really a very small proportional total total total total total total total total total stuff from proportion of the same of the Judge So-an-So undertake to find out what's the matter with farming, they're about as likely to arrive somewhere as a tandem of scared mules where as a tandem of scared mules where as a tandem of scared mules where of a woman's pettleoat drying on a clothesiline in the wind. They under the cost of distribution a clothesiline in the wind. They under the cost of distribution is considered to delivery at the cost of the cost of distribution in the time of delivery at the cost of the c on a clothesline in the wind. They undoubtedly have ability and the reporting skill to tell—if they could only find dentination by the rallroad to delivery out: there's a whole lot of us working to the consumer is the feature of the farmers who have the knowledge—if problem of high prices which must present itself to the consumer for treatment."

Well, Mr. Wilson once had some of that working experience, and he hasn't not it all out of his bones yet. He can effil see quite a ways into a hole in the ground, and he also possesses the ability to tell what he sees. The combination is rather unusual and makes for general interest. Last June, when the him prices were at their highest and the average city consumer was bitterly wishing himself a clam, so that he wouldn't have to buy things to est, but could live on what the blessed rides floated into his mouth twice a day hast June Secretary Wilson took a band in trying to find out how much responsibility for the cost of living fell on the farmers. Of course a congressional committee was "investigating" the broad geperal subject, and it wouldn't quite do for him to cross its transity took as if he head?" to ing" the broad general subject, and it wouldn't quits do for him to cross its trucks; might look as if he hadn't absolute faith in its wisdom and thoroughness. So he undertook a little still hunt for himself on the one simple question of how much of the high prices farmers got. He couldn't make a census of the whole farming community all over the country, so he picked out seventy-eight cities, in as many different parts of the United States as he could reach, and got from his regular crop correspondents and from a few special agents whom he was able to put on the job, figures as to the farmers' selling prices for produce to go to the cities, and the consumers' buying prices for the same products sold in those cities. He just found out the facts in these seventy-eight representative cases, covering found out the facts in these seventy-eight representative cases, covering north, south, east and west—all parts of the country. Then he averaged and summarized them. He found that, on the whole, farmers got just about 50 cents of every dollar consumers paid for facm stuff.

Milk was one of the indispensable food products investigated. It was found that in the north central states the deliveran got 44 per cent. of the selling price of his milk, and that he got a bare 50 per cent. in the country taken as a whole. That is, of the dollar which the average consumer paid for his milk the milk producing farmer got an average of 50 cents. Let us say, in passing, that the dairymen in my vicinity weren't being offered any such generous share of the loot, last June. For milk to go to the big city and there to be sold at eight cents a quart (either with or without watering) they were being offered the whole sum of three cents, as a special "inducement." That is, they were being offered, not the fifty cents on the dollar, but thirtyseven cents and a half. The average freight charge of the railroads for handing milk was about seven cents on

It would appear from these facts that in the case of milk neither the "stingy hunks of a farmer" nor the "greedy robbers of the railroad" were responsible for the milk costing eight cents a quart—nor seven cents—nor eix cents—nor oven five cents. This would seem to suggest to the city folks who are denouncing both that a revision of their verdict might be just.

backwoods, the traveling fruit-buyers' price to fruit-growers for table apples is about \$2.50 a barrel. I have a neighbor who happens to be acquainted with the exercise. While the average that the farmer received for his potatoes was less than 60 rents of the consumers dollar, there were several cases where the farmers got only 20 cents a bushel and some-local overproduction—where they got only innecents a bushel for the potatoes the city consumer paid from 50 to 75 cents for. That beats my record, I never before heard of potatoes selling, even at the farm, for nine cents a bushel. But they did, in some parts of the country, and that too, last June, when they were costing so much in the dides that consumers were afraid to eat 'em more than twice a week. Of the retail bushel price of apples the furmer got a bit over half; of oulons about a quarter; of boxed berries less than a half. The June retail price of cranges by the dozen syeraged just five times the orige paid for the saves from the tops of the retail to see the dozen syeraged just five times the orige paid for the saves from the tops of the retail price of cranges by the dozen syeraged just the price paid for the saves from the tops of the paid for the saves from the retail price of cranges by the dozen syeraged just the price paid for the saves from the price of cranges by the dozen syeraged just the price paid for the saves from the saves from the retail price of cranges by the dozen syeraged just the price paid for the saves from the retail price of cranges by the dozen syeraged just the price paid for the saves from the retail price of cranges by the dozen syeraged just the price paid for the saves from the retail price of cranges by the dozen syeraged just the price paid for the saves from \$1 to \$2 a barrel for them, here; has to pay extortionate express rates in addition to insure against freezing and delayed delivery—and nevertheless saves from \$1 to \$2 a barrel by this to pay extortionate express rates in addition to insure against freezing and d eranges by the dozen averaged just five times the price paid for the same eranges to the grower. These are some

The Important Problem

confronting anyone in need of a laxa-tive is not a question of a single ac-tive is not a question of a single action only, but of permanently bene-ficial effects, which will follow proper efforts to live in a healthful way, with the assistance of Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna, whenever it is required, as it cleanses the system gently yet promptly, without irritation and will therefore always have the preference of all who wish the best of family lavatives

The combination has the approval of physicians because it is known to be truly beneficial, and because it has given satisfaction to the millions of well-informed families who have used It for many years past.

To get its beneficial effects, always buy the genuine manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only.

freight haulage may have something to d: with the tremendous jump on them.

Unlike some of the gentlemen who undertake to tell us where we make our mistakes. Secretary Wilson was a farmer hefore he became secretary of acciding the farmer who has farmed on ind and a farmer who has farmed on paper is of our as begins the difference between a farmer who has farmed on paper is of our as begins the difference between a chestnut horse and a horse-chestnut. The names bear a certain resmediance, but the critters are essentially difference in any false claims of exemptions. Furthermore, demands by farmers. Furthermore they show that the much-abused rall.

losses. His crops are at the mercy of drouth and flood and heat and frost, to say nothing of noxious insects and blighting diseases. He supplies hard, exacting, unremitting labor. A de-gree and range of information and in-telligence are demanded by agriculture which are hardly equalled in any other occupation. Then there is the risk of overproduction and disastrously low prices. From beginning to end the farmer must steer dexterously to es-cape perils to his profits and, indeed, to his capital on every hand."

Against this labor and these risks of the producing farmer, extending over the whole year and embracing about everything which can possibly happen, the distributor has risks ex-tending over only a day or two and practically limited to bad credits. He sets the lion's share of the prey for doing the mouse's share of the hunt-

Manifestiy all this is neither just nor right nor properly tolerable. But — What to do about it? That's the practical question. From the farmer-producer's point of view the only available recourse is in co-operative selling. But that goes only half-way; it does not include co-operative buying. The producer and the consumer must get together—and the consumer must do his share of this "getting together." Again note a wise paragraph from the veteran secretary: gether." Again note a wise paragraph from the veteran secretary:
"Why do not consumers buy directly from the farmers? A distribution of farm products in this simple way has already begun in England, where cooperative organizations of farmers are sallies by discountered. selling by direct consignment to co-operative organizations of consumers in cities. Farmers' co-operative selling associations are numerous in this country, but co-operative buying associations among people of cities and towns are few. Aside from buying associations maintained by farmers, hardly any exist in this country. It is apparent, therefore, that the con-sumer has much to do to work out his own salvation with regard to the prices he pays for farm products."

Wherever producer and consumer get near enough to eac hother to touch hands and "swap fair," it proves a mighty good thing for both. Why, right in this particular corner of the backwoods, the traveling fruit-buyers' price to fruit grows and In the case of potatoes, the most price to fruit-growers for table apples idely used and indispensable vegeta- is about \$2.50 a barrel. I have a neigh-

> The trouble is that there are too many toll-gates along the road of our milk-cans and apple-barrels and our potato-bags. Too many toll-gates and too many toll-takers and too high tolls. We used to have obstructions of that sort along our common highways. They're mostly gone now; they don't nt with present-day needs: present-day travelers would not endure them. When I start for town I want a clear road and the common sense of the

save by the approach our problems! old common sense to our problems! THE FARMER.

As of Old.

THE STREET

The part in Texas in which Mr. Bryan has bought his ranch is also growing in republican strength. Mr. Bryan should move often.—New Haven

Relic of the Past. Mayor Gaynor of New York advances the novel view that a man can do his work and be polite at the same time.—Detroit

LETTERS FROM TWO STATES

TOLLAND COUNTY.

SOUTH WILLINGTON

Installation at Uriel Lodge - Putting Up Ice Run.

A couple of chimney sweeps have been plying their trade in town the last few days.

Masonic Installation.

The following officers were elected and installed at the annual communication of Uriel Lodge, No. 24, F. and A. M. last Saturday right: W. M. Lillibridge, W. M. John U. Fitts S. W.; Herman D. Edmond, J. W.; William H. Hall, treasurer; Walter A. Allen, sections of the content of the conten Masonic Installation.

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Time for Ice Cutting. The extreme cold weather of last week and part of this has set the Perry Ice company to thinking of put-

ting up their ice run here. WILLINGTON

Ladies' Aid Society Plans for New Year's Party and Reception.

Rev. Mr. Gardner preached Sunday morning from Luke xxiv:45. Topic: "Sanctification of the understanding." Rev. Mr. Darrow's discourse was from the 884th Faalm, 4th verse, and treated of the blessedness of living in God's

Dwight B. Gardner returned late last

week from his longest western trip of the year and came Monday morning to see his parents and sisters at the Congregational parsonage.
At the regular monthly meeting of the Ladies' Ald society it was decided to hold the New Year's party on New Year's eve, with the usual supper at the church parlor and reception to the pastor and his wife at the parsonage.

Fred Tyler spent Sunday in New Haven. The prayer meeting and mission study class was held at Maple Corner Thursday evening.

TURNERVILLE.

Everett Thompson Improving After Surgical Operation.

Mrs. T. R. Prentice is visiting relatives in Stafford Springs.

Mrs. C. A. Raymond is entertaining er mother, Mrs. Sherman of South-

Mrs. J. H. White spent Friday in Hartford.

Everett Thompson, Jr., who underwent an operation for appendicitis at St. Joseph's hospital, Willimantic, Joseph's hospital, Vinues to improve slowly Will Brehaut was the guest of Geo Taylor of South Coventry for the week

Water Famine Continues. The water famine continues here, some going to the brook for water and others to their more fortunate neighora. The Misses Slater were in Middletown over Sunday.

There is good sleighing in some parts of the town.

MANSFIELD DEPOT

Fire Partly Destroyed Wheeler Property-Ladies Hold Sale.

A fire was discovered on the property of Station Agent Wheeler Sunday evening and an alarm was given and promptly responded to by the neigh-bors, armed with chemicals, and the finmes were controlled after a hot fight. The house occupied by Mr. Williams was badly burned and at one time seemed doomed and the furniture was moved to a place of safety. The water supply falled, and but the timely arrival of help with che icals, the entire property might have burned. The fire started in a shed where corn fodder was stored. The ladles of the Baptist church held an oyster supper and sale of fancy goods Wednesday evening. There was a fine display of useful and fancy articles, which met with a ready sale.

GURLEYVILLE Birthday Surprise Party Given Ray-

mond Stimpson-Local Notes. G. W. Levalley is spending the win-

ter in Worcester, the guest of his daughter, Mrs. James Nichols. There will be an entertainment and Christmas tree in the church Monday evening, December 26. Mrs. Arrilla Dunham has closed her house for the winter.
Mrs. H. E. Simonds and Mrs. J. F Robertson acted as hostesses at the social held in the conference room on Friday evening

There was a surprise party at the

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home of Raymond Stimpson Saturday

SOUTH COVENTRY.

Congregational Sunday School to Hold Christmas Entertainment - Brief Local Notes.

Lest Sunday night Rev. Nestor Light gave an illustrated lecture at the Congregational church, his subject being Rome. He will give another lecture next Sunday evening.
The Congregational Sunday school is preferring for a concert and Christmas tree, for Friday evening, December 22. Mrs. W. B. Arnstrong, Miss Neille Albertin and Miss Hattle Coombs have charge of the arrangements.

Coombs have charge of the arrangements.

Mrs. Frank White of Hartford and Mrs. Arthur Brainerd of Somersville.

Conn. visited their parents Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kolb, last Friday.

The Tolland county conference of Congregational ministers held their annual meeting. annual meeting and dinner at the home of Rev. Nestor Light on Wed-nesday, December 7. Ten ministers

Mrs. Ella Rogers Mason of Boston. formerly of this place, visited Miss. Hattle Albro last week.

Edgarton-Hale Marriage. On Thanksgiving day the marriage of Miss Margaret Hale and Carl O. Edgerton took place at the home of Edgerion took place at the home of the bride, the ceremony being per-formed by Rev. Nestor Light. Mrs. Edgerion is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hale, who reside on what is known as the Eston homestead, coming here from New York a few coming here from New York a few years ago. Mr. Edgerton is a son of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Edgerton of South street. The couple will live with Mr. and Mrs. Hale for the present. The Ladies' Aid society of the M. E. church held a food sale at the church vestry on Friday afternoon

and evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Ledoyt have gone to Hartford for the winter.

BABY'S SCALP CRUSTED

"Our little daughter, when three months old, began to break out on the head and we had the best doctors to treat her, but they did not do her any good. They said she had eczema. Her scalp was a solid scale all over. The burning and itching was so severe that she could not rest, day or night. We had about given up all hopes when we read of the Cuticura Remedies. We at once got a cake of Cutcura Soap, a box read of the Cuticura Hammedies. We at owner got a cake of Cuticura Soep, a box of Cuticura Ointment and one bottle of Cuticura Resolvent and followed direc-tions carefully. After the first dose of the Cuticura Resolvent, we used the the Cuticura Resolvent, we used the Cuticura Soap freely and applied the Cuticura Ointment. Then she began to improve rapidly and in two weeks the scale came off her head and new hair began to grow. In a very short time she was well. We used the Cuticura Remedies about five weeks, regularly, and then we could not tell she had been affected with any disease. We used no other treatments after we found out other treatments after we found out what the Culifura Remedies would do for her. J. Fish and Ella M. Fish, Mt. Vernon, Ky., Oct. 12, 1909."

Absolutely Pure The only baking powder made from Royal Grape Gream of Tartar No Alum, No Lime Phosphate

Tramp's Compensation. A former millionaire wheat speculator of Minnespods has been foun lator of Minnescody has been found wandering around the streets of Lo Crosse. Wis, in the garb of a tramp An old friend recognized him. Such changes of fortune are striking and were, for many years, generally regarded as more or less unfortunate but comparatively recent events warn us not to be too hasty in our conclusions. The former Minnesota millionaire may actually be entoying the aire may actually be enjoying th

hange. Just think! Now that he hasn't Just think! Now that he hasn't cent he can go right down to Was! haten and talg about the tariff with out anybody's denouncing him as then whose aim and end in life is

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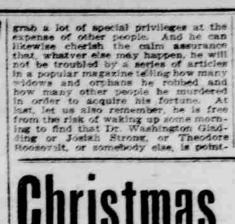
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ing the finger of soors at him for ing the owner and operator of so my recking, tainted money.—Chicago is Ocean.

"That Boston Brainstorm." There is something the matter with a governor-elect who presumes to demand of the members of the legisla-Sast, let us also remember, he is free who belong to the opposite po-from the risk of waking up some morn-ing to find that Dr. Washington Giad-ding or Josiah Strong, or Theodore Roosevilt, or somebody else, is point-

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